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SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC.			VU, NGOC K	
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT			ART UNIT	
5030 SUGARLOAF PARKWAY			PAPER NUMBER	
LAWRENCEVILLE, GA 30044			2611	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/693,606

Applicant(s)

BANKER ET AL.

Examiner

Ngoc K. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/27/05 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-4 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by White et al. (U.S. 6,392,664 B1).

Regarding claim 1, White discloses a method for providing a television menu comprising:

receiving a plurality of television channels provided by a respective plurality of television services via a settop terminal (within terminal 14 – see figure 1; col. 3, lines 40-47);

storing definition information (information associated with interactive services is stored within server 30 for providing menus, wherein each of menus includes option(s) related to each of services – see col. 2, lines 25-28; figure 2) regarding a plurality of television menus in which each of the television menus includes at least one television menu option (for example, game menu includes single player option or a community of players option; juke box menu includes selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45), the at least one television menu option being defined for each of the television menus based on each television service (television services such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox, news – col. 6, lines 52-55);

associated each one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to a corresponding one of the plurality of television channels provided by the respective plurality of television service (for example, associating jukebox menu to “jukebox channel” provided by jukebox service, associating video menu to “video channel” provided by video-on-demand service, associating game menu to “games channel” provided by games service – see col. 3, lines 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45; col. 4, lines 12-18; col. 6, lines 52-55);

selecting one of the plurality of television channels via the settop terminal (selecting or switching one of viewing channels – see col. 3, lines 41-44);

receiving an input signal (via remote control 52) from a user to provide a television a television menu (for example, the receiver receives a request from the user via remote control 52 for providing video, games, jukebox menu, etc. – see col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45);

responsive to the input signal, identifying a television service corresponding to the selected television channel currently being provided to the user via the settop terminal; and providing one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to the user that

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includes at least one television menu option that is selected based on the identified television service for the selected television channel (when the user selects or switch one of viewing channels, i.e., video, games, jukebox and celebrity chat, via the remote control, the system identifies a interactive service corresponding to the selected viewing channel currently being provided to the user via the terminal 14 and provides one of menus including at least one option to the user. For example, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4),

wherein a corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus is providing for each and every television channels of the plurality television channels (viewing channels such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox) in response to selection thereof, the provided corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus including at least one television menu option that corresponds to the selected television channel (as addressed above, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4).

Regarding claim 2, White teaches that the service provided is identified by an operating system at headend 12 (see col. 2, lines 25-31).

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Regarding claim 3, White teaches that the service is identified by information previously stored in memory at server 30 (see col. 2, lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 4, White teaches that a user input corresponds to a predefined input signal for switching or selecting one of viewing channels (see col. 3, lines 41-47).

Regarding claim 14, White discloses a method for providing a television menu comprising:

receiving a plurality of television channels provided by a respective plurality of television services via a settop terminal (within terminal 14 – see figure 1; col. 3, lines 40-47);

storing definition information (information associated with interactive services is stored within server 30 for providing menus, wherein each of menus includes option(s) related to each of services – see col. 2, lines 25-28; figure 2) regarding a plurality of television menus in which each of the television menus includes at least one television menu option (for example, game menu includes single player option or a community of players option; juke box menu includes selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45), the at least one television menu option being defined for each of the television menus based on each television service (television services such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox, news – col. 6, lines 52-55);

selecting one of the plurality of television channels via the settop terminal (selecting or switching one of viewing channels – see col. 3, lines 41-44);

receiving an input signal (via remote control 52) from a user to provide a television a television menu (for example, the receiver receives a request from the user via remote control 52 for providing video, games, jukebox menu, etc. – see col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45);

associated each one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to a corresponding one of the plurality of television channels provided by the respective plurality of television service (for example, associating jukebox menu to "jukebox channel" provided by jukebox service, associating video menu to "video channel" provided by video-on-demand service, associating game menu to "games channel" provided by games service – see col. 3, lines 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45; col. 4, lines 12-18; col. 6, lines 52-55);

responsive to the input signal, identifying a television service corresponding to the selected television channel currently being provided to the user via the settop terminal; and providing one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to the user that includes at least one television menu option that is selected based on the identified television service for the selected television channel (when the user selects or switch one of viewing channels, i.e., video, games, jukebox and celebrity chat, via the remote control, the system identifies a interactive service corresponding to the selected viewing channel currently being provided to the user via the terminal 14 and provides one of menus including at least one option to the user. For example, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4),

wherein a corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus is providing for each and every television channels of the plurality television channels (viewing channels such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox) in response to selection thereof, the provided corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus including

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at least one television menu option that corresponds to the selected television channel (as addressed above, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4).

Regarding claim 15, White teaches that the television service is a purchasable media presentation (video-on-demand program – see col. 3, lines 51-53; col. 4, lines 59-62).

Regarding claim 16, White teaches that the service provided is identified by an operating system at headend 12 (see col. 2, lines 25-31).

Regarding claim 17, White teaches that the service is identified by information previously stored in memory at server 30 (see col. 2, lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 18, White teaches that a user input corresponds to a predefined input signal for switching or selecting one of viewing channels (see col. 3, lines 41-47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 5-13 and 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over White et al. (U.S. 6,392,664 B1) in view of Hendricks et al. (US 6,738,978 B1).

Regarding claim 5, White discloses a programmable television services client device (14) that provides television control services, said client device (14 - see figure 3) comprising:

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a device (within 14) for selecting one of a plurality of television channels provided by a respective plurality of television services (see figures 1 and 3; col. 3, lines 40-47);

memory (40, 42) for storing information (see col. 3, lines 1-8);

a processor (38) coupled to the memory that is configured to receive an input signal (via remote control 52) from a user (for example, the receiver receives a request from the user via remote control 52 for providing video, games, jukebox menu, etc. – see col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45), responsive to the input signal identify a television service corresponding to the selected television channel currently being provided to the user, associated each one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to a corresponding one of the plurality of television channels provided by the respective plurality of television service (for example, associating jukebox menu to “jukebox channel” provided by jukebox service, associating video menu to “video channel” provided by video-on-demand service, associating game menu to “games channel” provided by games service – see col. 3, lines 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45; col. 4, lines 12-18; col. 6, lines 52-55), and provide the corresponding one of television menus of the plurality of television menus to the user that includes at least one television menu option that is selected based on the identified television service for the selected television channel (when the user selects or switch one of viewing channels, i.e., video, games, jukebox and celebrity chat, via the remote control, the system identifies a interactive service corresponding to the selected viewing channel currently being provided to the user via the terminal 14 and provides one of menus including at least one option to the user. For example, the user selects “video channel”, the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects “games channel”, the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects “jukebox channel”, the

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system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4),

wherein a corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus is providing for each and every television channels of the plurality television channels (viewing channels such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox) in response to selection thereof, the provided corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus including at least one television menu option that corresponds to the selected television channel (as addressed above, the user selects “video channel”, the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects “games channel”, the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects “jukebox channel”, the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4).

White system provides information associated with interactive services from server 30 to the terminal 14 for providing menus, wherein each of menus includes at least one television option related to each of services (see col. 2, lines 25-28; figure 2), for example, game menu includes single player option or a community of players option; juke box menu includes selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. (see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45). It is noted that the at least one television menu option being defined for each of the television menus based on each services such as video, games, celebrity chat and jukebox (see col. 6, lines 52-55).

White does not specifically teach that the client device 14 comprises memory for storing definitional information regarding television menus. However, Hendricks discloses that set top terminal 220 is able to store menu templates in volatile memory for creating menus that are

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displayed on a subscriber's television (see col. 13, lines 8-40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify White's system by storing menu templates or information regarding a plurality of television menus as taught by Hendricks to allow processor of the set top terminal locally accessing the information stored in memory.

Regarding claim 6, White teaches that the service is identified by information previously stored in memory at server 30 (see col. 2, lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 7, White teaches that the service provided is identified by an operating system at headend 12 (see col. 2, lines 25-31).

Regarding claim 8, White teaches that a user input corresponds to a predefined input signal for switching or selecting one of viewing channels (see col. 3, lines 41-47).

Regarding claim 9, White discloses a programmable television services client device (14) that provides television control services, said client device (14 - see figure 3) comprising:

a device (within 14) for selecting one of a plurality of television channels (see figures 1 and 3; col. 3, lines 40-47);

memory (40, 42) for storing information (see col. 3, lines 1-8);

a processor (38) coupled to the memory that is configured to receive an input signal (via remote control 52) from a user (for example, the receiver receives a request from the user via remote control 52 for providing video, games, jukebox menu, etc. – see col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45), responsive to the input signal identify a television service corresponding to the selected television channel currently being provided to the user, associated each one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to a corresponding one of the plurality of television channels provided by the respective plurality of television service (for example, associating jukebox menu to "jukebox channel" provided by

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jukebox service, associating video menu to "video channel" provided by video-on-demand service, associating game menu to "games channel" provided by games service – see col. 3, lines 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45; col. 4, lines 12-18; col. 6, lines 52-55), and provide the corresponding one of television menus of the plurality of television menus to the user that includes at least one television menu option that is selected based on the identified television service for the selected television channel (when the user selects or switch one of viewing channels, i.e., video, games, jukebox and celebrity chat, via the remote control, the system identifies a interactive service corresponding to the selected viewing channel currently being provided to the user via the terminal 14 and provides one of menus including at least one option to the user. For example, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4),

wherein a corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus is providing for each and every television channels of the plurality television channels (viewing channels such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox) in response to selection thereof, the provided corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus including at least one television menu option that corresponds to the selected television channel (as addressed above, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a

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community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4).

White system provides information associated with interactive services from server 30 to the terminal 14 for providing menus, wherein each of menus includes at least one television option related to each of services (see col. 2, lines 25-28; figure 2), for example, game menu includes single player option or a community of players option; juke box menu includes selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. (see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45). It is noted that the at least one television menu option being defined for each of the television menus based on each services such as video, games, celebrity chat and jukebox (see col. 6, lines 52-55).

White does not specifically teach that the client device 14 comprises memory for storing definitional information regarding television menus. However, Hendricks discloses that set top terminal 220 is able to store menu templates in volatile memory for creating menus that are displayed on a subscriber's television (see col. 13, lines 8-40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify White's system by storing menu templates or information regarding a plurality of television menus as taught by Hendricks to allow processor of the set top terminal locally accessing the information stored in memory.

Regarding claim 10, White teaches that the television service is a purchasable media presentation (video-on-demand program – see col. 3, lines 51-53; col. 4, lines 59-62).

Regarding claim 11, White teaches that the service is identified by information previously stored in memory at server 30 (see col. 2, lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 12, White teaches that the service provided is identified by an operating system at headend 12 (see col. 2, lines 25-31).

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Regarding claim 13, White teaches that a user input corresponds to a predefined input signal for switching or selecting one of viewing channels (see col. 3, lines 41-47).

Regarding claim 19, White discloses a programmable television services client device (14) that provides television control services, said client device (14 - see figure 3) comprising:

a device (within 14) for selecting one of a plurality of television channels (see figures 1 and 3; col. 3, lines 40-47);

memory (40, 42) for storing information (see col. 3, lines 1-8);

a processor (38) coupled to the memory that is configured to receive an input signal (via remote control 52) from a user (for example, the receiver receives a request from the user via remote control 52 for providing video, games, jukebox menu, etc. – see col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45), responsive to the input signal identify a television service corresponding to the selected television channel currently being provided to the user, associated each one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to a corresponding one of the plurality of television channels provided by the respective plurality of television service (for example, associating jukebox menu to “jukebox channel” provided by jukebox service, associating video menu to “video channel” provided by video-on-demand service, associating game menu to “games channel” provided by games service – see col. 3, lines 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45; col. 4, lines 12-18; col. 6, lines 52-55), and provide the corresponding one of television menus of the plurality of television menus to the user that includes at least one television menu option that is selected based on the identified television service for the selected television channel (when the user selects or switch one of viewing channels, i.e., video, games, jukebox and celebrity chat, via the remote control, the system identifies a interactive service corresponding to the selected viewing channel currently being provided to the user via the terminal 14 and provides one of menus including at least one

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option to the user. For example, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4),

wherein a corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus is providing for each and every television channels of the plurality television channels (viewing channels such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox) in response to selection thereof, the provided corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus including at least one television menu option that corresponds to the selected television channel (as addressed above, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4).

White system provides information associated with interactive services from server 30 to the terminal 14 for providing menus, wherein each of menus includes at least one television option related to each of services (see col. 2, lines 25-28; figure 2), for example, game menu includes single player option or a community of players option; juke box menu includes selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. (see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45). It is noted that the at

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least one television menu option being defined for each of the television menus based on each services such as video, games, celebrity chat and jukebox (see col. 6, lines 52-55).

White does not specifically teach that the client device 14 comprises memory for storing definitional information regarding television menus. However, Hendricks discloses that set top terminal 220 is able to store menu templates in volatile memory for creating menus that are displayed on a subscriber's television (see col. 13, lines 8-40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify White's system by storing menu templates or information regarding a plurality of television menus as taught by Hendricks to allow processor of the set top terminal locally accessing the information stored in memory.

Regarding claim 20, White teaches that the television channel is a video on demand channel ("video channel" providing video-on-demand service – see col. 3, lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 21, White discloses a programmable television services client device (14) that provides television control services, said client device (14 - see figure 3) comprising:

- means for selecting one of a plurality of television channels (see figures 1 and 3; col. 3, lines 40-47);

- means for storing information (see col. 3, lines 1-8);

- means for receiving an input signal (via remote control 52) from a user (for example, the receiver receives a request from the user via remote control 52 for providing video, games, jukebox menu, etc. – see col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45); and responsive to the input signal, means for identifying a television service corresponding to the selected television channel currently being provided to the user, means for associating each one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to a corresponding one of the plurality of television channels provided by the respective plurality of television service (for

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example, associating jukebox menu to "jukebox channel" provided by jukebox service, associating video menu to "video channel" provided by video-on-demand service, associating game menu to "games channel" provided by games service – see col. 3, lines 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45; col. 4, lines 12-18; col. 6, lines 52-55), and means for providing the corresponding one of television menus of the plurality of television menus to the user that includes at least one television menu option that is selected based on the identified television service for the selected television channel (when the user selects or switch one of viewing channels, i.e., video, games, jukebox and celebrity chat, via the remote control, the system identifies a interactive service corresponding to the selected viewing channel currently being provided to the user via the terminal 14 and provides one of menus including at least one option to the user. For example, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4),

wherein a corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus is providing for each and every television channels of the plurality television channels (viewing channels such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox) in response to selection thereof, the provided corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus including at least one television menu option that corresponds to the selected television channel (as addressed above, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a

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community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4).

White system provides information associated with interactive services from server 30 to the terminal 14 for providing menus, wherein each of menus includes at least one television option related to each of services (see col. 2, lines 25-28; figure 2), for example, game menu includes single player option or a community of players option; juke box menu includes selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. (see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45). It is noted that the at least one television menu option being defined for each of the television menus based on each services such as video, games, celebrity chat and jukebox (see col. 6, lines 52-55).

White does not specifically teach that the client device 14 comprises memory for storing definitional information regarding television menus. However, Hendricks discloses that set top terminal 220 is able to store menu templates in volatile memory for creating menus that are displayed on a subscriber's television (see col. 13, lines 8-40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify White's system by storing menu templates or information regarding a plurality of television menus as taught by Hendricks to allow processor of the set top terminal locally accessing the information stored in memory.

Regarding claim 22, White teaches that the television channel is a video on demand channel ("video channel" providing video-on-demand service – see col. 3, lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 23, White discloses a programmable television services client device (14) that provides television control services, said client device (14 - see figure 3) comprising:

means for selecting one of a plurality of television channels (see figures 1 and 3; col. 3, lines 40-47);

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means for storing information (see col. 3, lines 1-8);

means for receiving an input signal (via remote control 52) from a user (for example, the receiver receives a request from the user via remote control 52 for providing video, games, jukebox menu, etc. – see col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45); and responsive to the input signal, means for identifying a television service corresponding to the selected television channel currently being provided to the user, means for associating each one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus to a corresponding one of the plurality of television channels provided by the respective plurality of television service (for example, associating jukebox menu to “jukebox channel” provided by jukebox service, associating video menu to “video channel” provided by video-on-demand service, associating game menu to “games channel” provided by games service – see col. 3, lines 51-54; col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45; col. 4, lines 12-18; col. 6, lines 52-55), and means for providing the corresponding one of television menus of the plurality of television menus to the user that includes at least one television menu option that is selected based on the identified television service for the selected television channel (when the user selects or switch one of viewing channels, i.e., video, games, jukebox and celebrity chat, via the remote control, the system identifies a interactive service corresponding to the selected viewing channel currently being provided to the user via the terminal 14 and provides one of menus including at least one option to the user. For example, the user selects “video channel”, the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects “games channel”, the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects “jukebox channel”, the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4),

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wherein a corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus is providing for each and every television channels of the plurality television channels (viewing channels such as video, games, celebrity chat, jukebox) in response to selection thereof, the provided corresponding one of the television menus of the plurality of television menus including at least one television menu option that corresponds to the selected television channel (as addressed above, the user selects "video channel", the system provides a video menu including options such as movie categories, search videos by title, actor, director, keywords, etc; the user selects "games channel", the system provides a game menu including single player option or a community of players option; the user selects "jukebox channel", the system provides a jukebox menu including selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. – see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-48; col. 3, lines 41-44 and 51-54, col. 4, lines 12-20 and figure 4).

White system provides information associated with interactive services from server 30 to the terminal 14 for providing menus, wherein each of menus includes at least one television option related to each of services (see col. 2, lines 25-28; figure 2), for example, game menu includes single player option or a community of players option; juke box menu includes selection of music by genre, artist, title, etc. (see col. 7, lines 2-6; col. 8, lines 42-45). It is noted that the at least one television menu option being defined for each of the television menus based on each services such as video, games, celebrity chat and jukebox (see col. 6, lines 52-55).

White does not specifically teach that the client device 14 comprises memory for storing definitional information regarding television menus. However, Hendricks discloses that set top terminal 220 is able to store menu templates in volatile memory for creating menus that are displayed on a subscriber's television (see col. 13, lines 8-40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify White's system by storing menu templates or information regarding a plurality of television menus as

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taught by Hendricks to allow processor of the set top terminal locally accessing the information stored in memory.

Regarding claim 24, White teaches that the television service is a purchasable media presentation (video-on-demand program – see col. 3, lines 51-53; col. 4, lines 59-62).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ngoc K. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-7306. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller can be reached on 571-272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ngoc K. Vu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2611

February 21, 2006